

through the botanical magazines. The committee published, first in the GAZETTE, and in the *Bulletin* for February of this year, a preliminary outline for the organization of the Exchange, based on the rules of the Botanical Exchange Club of the British Isles, and asked for suggestions and improvements for a permanent constitution. A few months later the committee published a note announcing the location of the head-quarters of the Exchange at the National Herbarium, in the Department of Agriculture at Washington, and soon after the final report of the committee came out in the June number of the botanical magazines in the form of the governing rules of the Exchange.

As at present constituted, then, the Botanical Exchange Club consists of a number of persons organized for the purpose of exchanging botanical specimens, and governed by certain rules. The correspondence, finances and general management of the Exchange are in the hands of a director. A considerable number have already become members, and packages of specimens are beginning to come in. With the increased membership and contributions that the Exchange will have by the end of this season's botanizing, the director can soon put the exchanging into full active operation.

Printed copies of the rules will be distributed, and an opportunity will be given to any of the botanists present to become members of the Exchange. The annual fee of two dollars has been set for the purpose of paying the expenses of printing, transportation of specimens and correspondence.

All packages and correspondence should be addressed to Dr. George Vasey, Director of the Botanical Exchange Club, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

A list of new mosses of N. Am.—The descriptions and drawings of the following mosses, by F. Renauld and J. Cardot, will be issued shortly in the BOTANICAL GAZETTE:

- Microbryum Flörkeanum* Sch. var. *Henrici*.—Kansas (Henry).
- Weisia viridula* Brid. var. *nitida*.—Louisiana (Langlois).
- Dicranum hyperboreum* C. Müll. var. *papillosum*.—Greenland.
- Dicranum sabuletorum* (*D. spurium* var. *condensatum* Lesq. et James, non *D. condensatum* Hedw.). Southern States.
- Dicranum scoparium* Hedw. var. *sulcatum*.—Miquelon (Delamare).
- Dicranum Howellii*.—Oregon (Howell).
- Dicranum Miquelonense*.—Miquelon (Delamare).
- Fissidens incurvus* Schw. var. *brevifolius*.—Louisiana (Langlois).
- Trichodon* (?) *flexifolius*.—Florida (Sawyer).
- Physcomitrium pyriforme* Brid. var. *Langloisii*.—Louisiana (Langlois). New Jersey (Green).
- Bryum Sawyeri*.—Florida (Sawyer).
- Fontinalis Oregonensis* (sub-species of *F. antipyretica*). Oregon (Howell).

Alsia Californica Sull. var. *flagellifera*.—California (Miss Mann).

Eurhynchium strigosum B. S. var. *Barnesii*.—Idaho (Leiberg).

Plagiothecium denticulatum B. S. var. *microcarpum*.—Idaho (Leiberg).

Amblystegium riparium B. S. var. *serratum*.—Kansas (Henry).

Amblystegium riparium var. *Floridanum*.—Florida (Garber). Louisiana (Langlois).

Hypnum symmetricum (sub-species of *H. uncinatum*).—Idaho (Leiberg). Oregon (Howell).

Hypnum arcuatum Lindb. var. *Americanum*.—Louisiana (Langlois).

Silk seeking pollen.—Director Speer, of the Iowa experiment station, is making some interesting experiments on the fertilization of corn. It is found that the silk will remain green and in a receptive condition and grow in length for a long time if not fertilized. Some silks just measured which have been out nineteen days, but covered to prevent fertilization, are sixteen inches beyond the ear. In one instance a few silks were fertilized the second day after they appeared, and six days later the remainder, two sizes of kernels appearing on the ear. In another case the ear was covered until the silk was well started and then pollenized. Twelve days later it was examined and found to have set almost perfectly, but the kernels toward the base of the ear were the smallest, showing that the longest silks required the most time for fertilization. In ordinary cases the silks from the base of the ear appear much the soonest and the lower kernels become fertilized first. In another case where the outer (lower) silks were cut off and the whole left exposed a greater difference in size between the top and butt kernels appeared. Silks were repeatedly cut off and the ear afterward successfully fertilized, proving that it is not the forked apex of the silk alone that is receptive.

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EDITORIAL.

ANOTHER PROPOSITION was made and considered this year to erect the Botanical Club of the A. A. A. S. into a section, or at least a sub-section. Fortunately, we think, the committee reported adversely to the proposition, after consulting the council and those who have had some experience with similar movements in other sections. We hope that this endeavor will not be renewed. It tends, even when unsuccessful, to exaggerate the importance of the club, and to that extent to interfere with its usefulness.

ANOTHER PROPOSAL which we think would be equally harmful should it be acceded to was that the club request the council to publish its proceedings in the regular volume. The Botanical Club should hardly be formal enough to be said to have "proceedings." It is to be the place